

mination, that the whole of them (with the possible exception of *Iolema frontalis*) are known in Europe, and have nearly all been previously described.

The new edition of the 'Mammals and Birds of the United States Exploring Expedition under Commodore Wilkes,' by Mr. Cassin, has just been received in this country. We hope hereafter to be able to give a full notice of this important work.

XI.—*Extracts from Correspondence, Notices, &c.*

(Plate III.)

WE are happy to be able to state that letters have been received from Mr. Wallace, dated Ternate, September 2nd, announcing his safe return from New Guinea about a fortnight before that time. Mr. Wallace gives by no means a favourable account of Havre-Dorey as a collecting-place, and says that he has never made a voyage "so disagreeable, expensive, and unsatisfactory as that now completed." He suffered greatly from illness and from bad and insufficient food, and was only just sufficiently recovered to work at cleansing and packing his collections. His servants suffered as much as himself, two or three of them were always sick, and one of his hunters died of dysentery. Not only was he unable to procure any of the rarer Paradise-birds himself at this spot, but he could not even purchase a single skin of them. "It is certain," says Mr. Wallace, "that all but the two common yellow species" (*Paradisea apoda* and *P. papuana*) "are very rare, even in the places where the natives get them, for you may see hundreds of the common species to perhaps one of the rarer sorts. I sent two of my servants with seven natives a voyage of 100 miles to the most celebrated place for birds—Amberbabei—mentioned by Lesson, and after twenty days they brought me back nothing but two of *P. papuana* and one of *P. regia*." He goes on to say, "My only hope now lies in Waigiou, where I shall probably go next year, and try for *P. rubra* and *P. superba*. Even of *P. papuana* I have not many, as my boys had to shoot them all themselves. I got *nothing* from the natives at Dorey. You will ask why I did not try somewhere else, when I found Dorey so bad. The simple

answer is, that in the whole mainland of New Guinea there is no other place where my life would be safe a week. It is a horribly wild country. You have no idea of the difficulties in the way of a single person doing anything in it. There are a few good birds at Dorey, but full half of the species are the same as at the Aru Islands, and there is much less variety. My best things are some new and rare Lories*." In a letter written from Ternate in March last, before starting for Havre-Dorey, Mr. Wallace remarks, speaking of the Eastern tropics generally, "This part of the world is very poor in species compared with South America. In Java, so rich, so varied, and so well explored, there are barely 300 species according to Müller, a number which any one spot in tropical America would probably furnish if well explored." In the same letter, with reference to the distribution of the Parrots, he says, "The *Psittacidae* are very interesting. It is, however, almost impossible to get *all* the species of each locality, some being always scarce and difficult to shoot. The greatest confusion exists as to their distribution, owing to their being carried from island to island by the native traders. This I hope in a great measure to set to rights. Almost every island of any extent has some peculiar species, but there are others which extend over a considerable range of the Archipelago. The representative species in the different islands are often very closely allied. In Gilolo I have found the true *Geoffroiinus cyaneicollis*, which is quite distinct from *G. personatus* of Amboyna, and also from the Aru species, which, if different, as I think, from the Amboyna one, is new†. In my second Macassar collection I have sent a *Trichoglossus*‡, which I think new—the most western of the genus. At Manado, in the north of Celebes, I shall find many of the rare birds which do not occur at Macassar. I have a pair of the superb *Pitta maxima* of Forsten,

* Among these is what Mr. Wallace thinks is a new species of *Charmosyna*.

† This will stand as *Geoffroiinus aruensis*, having been described by Mr. G. R. Gray from Mr. Wallace's specimens as *Psittacus aruensis* (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1858, p. 183).

‡ The *Trichoglossus* from Macassar is *T. ornatus*. There are examples of this species in the Leiden Museum from Celebes collected by Forsten, and from Bouton collected by Müller.



J. Wolf, lith.

M & N. Hanhart Imp^t

CEPHALOPTERUS PENDULIGER

from Gilolo." Mr. Wallace's second Macassar collection has been received since he wrote thus. In it and his first collection he has transmitted many interesting species, *Buceros cassidix*, *B. exaratus*, *Basileornis corythaix*, *Streptocitta albicollis*, *Phænicophaus callirhynchus*, *Spilornis rufipectus**—all types peculiar to Celebes; and among the *Psittacidae*, *Tanygnathus mülleri*, Bp., a fine species of *Prioniturus*, and *Trichoglossus ornatus*. In the last collection we were surprised to recognize in a strongly-built Corvine bird, Prince Bonaparte's *Gazzola typica* (Compt. Rend. vol. xxxvii. p. 828, et Notes Orn. p. 6). Prince Bonaparte gives New Caledonia as the locality of this bird, which is very singular, as the *Streptocitta* of Celebes is also attributed, in Labillardière's 'Voyage,' to New Caledonia. But the fact is, that Labillardière visited Celebes as well as New Caledonia, and the specimens from each country must have been mixed up together. The true position of the *Gazzola* is certainly near *Corvus dauricus*, however Prince Bonaparte may deride its being labeled "*Corvus dauricus* de la Nouvelle Calédonie," and we are not at all sure that it is generically separable therefrom. Another interesting bird in Mr. Wallace's last Macassar collection is a curiously-marked Thrush of the section *Geocichla*, allied to *G. interpres*† of Java and Sumatra, but having the whole back as well as the head chestnut-red. For this bird, of which two examples only were sent, we propose the name *Geocichla erythronota*‡. From Lombok Mr. Wallace has transmitted the true *Geocichla interpres*.

Mr. Fraser, who is now collecting in the Andes of Ecuador, dates his last letters from Pallatanga, on the Pacific slope of the western range of the Cordillera, south-westwards of Riobamba, in the *tierra caliente*. His first collection from this spot, which has just arrived, contains about 110 species, among which are

* Gould, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1857, p. 222.

† Temminck, Pl. Col. 458.

‡ *Geocichla erythronota*, Sclater.

- G. suprà castanea: alis, caudâ, lateribus capitis et corpore subtùs ad medium pectus intensè nigris; maculâ utrinque inter oculum et rictum, alterâ in regione auriculari, tectricum alarium apicibus et primariorum ad basin marginibus externis, rectricis extimæ maculâ terminali et secundæ maculâ minore, albis: abdomine crissoque albis, ventre nigro tanquam squamato: rostro plumbeo, apice flavâ, pedibus flavis: long. tota 8·0, alæ 4·5, caudæ 3·0.

many scarce birds, such as the curious Toucan (*Andigena laminirostris*), some rare Tanagers (*Saltator atripennis* and *Buarremon leucopterus*), and several undescribed species of different families. But the most remarkable thing in the collection, and indeed one of the most extraordinary birds lately discovered, is a new Umbrella-bird (*Cephalopterus*) with a very elongated throat-lappet, nearly as long as the whole body of the bird. This we propose to call *Cephalopterus penduliger**. It will be described at length, and its differences from the two previously known species (*Cephalopterus ornatus* and *C. glabricollis*) pointed out, in the report on Mr. Fraser's collections submitted to the Zoological Society. Meanwhile the accompanying figure by Mr. Wolf (Pl. III.) will give a good idea of its strange appearance.

M. Mouhot de Montbeilliard of Jersey has safely arrived at Bangkok, whence he was preparing to start, as soon as the dry season should commence, to explore the natural productions of the unknown interior of the kingdom of Siam. His first collections may be expected very shortly. His agent is Mr. S. Stevens, of 24 Bloomsbury Street.

A letter from Mr. Blyth of the Calcutta Museum, dated in June last, announces the arrival of some interesting novelties from the Andaman Islands:—"Among the birds I received a handsome new Sháwa (*Kittacincla albiventris*, nobis). Form typical, but with the four medial tail-feathers much less elongated than in *K. macroura*; the abdominal region, tibial plumes, axillaries, and fore-part of wing underneath pure white; vent and lower coverts only, and hindmost portion of the flanks deep ferruginous, as in the other: otherwise like *K. macroura*." Mr. Blyth also speaks of a new Pheasant which he has described as *Diardigallus fasciolatus*. Five males were brought alive to Calcutta, supposed

* It is smaller considerably than *C. ornatus*, measuring—whole length $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches, wing $9\frac{1}{2}$, tail $4\frac{1}{2}$, bill from front 1·7, tarsus 1·8, throat-lappet $8\frac{1}{2}$. The corresponding measurements of a fine specimen of *C. ornatus* in Mr. Gould's collection are, whole length $17\frac{1}{2}$ inches, wing 11, tail $6\frac{1}{2}$, bill from front 1·9, tarsus 2·1, throat-lappet 4·0. In *C. penduliger* the throat-lappet is long and narrow, and there is no bare space on the neck; in *C. ornatus* the lappet is short and broad, covering a naked space; in *C. glabricollis* the whole fore-neck and chest as well as the basal part of the lappet itself are denuded. In *C. penduliger*, again, the under wing-coverts are partly white, in *C. ornatus* they are quite black.

to be from Borneo, but no female. A sketch and parts of the feathers enclosed would seem to indicate its being a very remarkable species—"the crest-plumes of curious structure: size of the various species of *Gallophasis*: the figure slim and game-looking, with bright red legs, and fully as much papillose crimson skin about the face as the *Nycthemerus*." We have not yet met with Mr. Blyth's published description of this singular bird.

In a letter just received by Sir William Jardine from Professor Jameson of Quito, that gentleman states, "On the 1st of the present month (November) I made an excursion to the farm of Antisana. The farm-house is situated at an elevation of 13,454 feet above the sea-level, and is uninhabited, except on special occasions. In an apartment on the ground-floor I found some nests of *Oreotrochilus pichinchæ*. I am certain as to the species. One of the nests was attached to the extremity of a straw-rope hanging from the roof."

Most of our readers will probably have seen the prospectus of M. A. Malherbe of Metz, announcing the immediate commencement of the publication of his long-promised monograph of the Woodpeckers. M. Malherbe now begs us to announce a slight alteration in the plan of publication, in that he only intends to issue a livraison every two months, instead of every twenty days. Moreover he has resolved to strike off only 75 copies of the plates, after which the stones will be effaced; so that those who desire to possess the work should send in their names* without loss of time.

The Zoological Society have lately added to their collection fine examples of Darwin's Rhea, and the common Cassowary, so that the following extraordinary assemblage of *Struthiones* may now be seen alive in the Gardens:—*Struthio camelus*, *Rhea americana*, and *R. darwini*, *Dromæus novæ hollandiæ*, *Casuarus galeatus* and *C. bennettii*, and *Apteryx mantelli*.

Should any wandering naturalist be inclined for a few months' excursion next spring, and not know where he may profitably betake himself, we present him with an account of what he may

* Direct "à M. Alfred Malherbe, Conseiller à la Cour Impériale, Metz, France." The work will appear in 25 livraisons, at 18 fr. each, forming two folio volumes.

expect to find in the neighbourhood of Tarsus, a port which may be easily reached by the French and Austrian steamers of the Levant line from Smyrna and Rhodes.

"A shooting excursion in the Cilician Taurus would be no disagreeable amusement; for it would not be difficult, directly on leaving the steamer down in the plains, to kill Francolins, Wild Swine, two species of Gazelles, the yet undetermined Stag of the Pyramus woods, Beavers, black Fishing-otters, Jackals, and striped Hyænas, not to speak of a multitude of marsh and water fowl, with which the wide sedgy expanse of brackish waters abounds.

"When the heat of the plains becomes excessive, the sportsman may ascend to the hills to search out the Leopards in the rocky hollows, which, however, are among the rarities. But the Boar is not uncommon in the mountain woods, the Ptarmigan, Jackal, and striped Hyæna ascend up to an elevation of 3000 feet, and the great pale yellow Vulture is to be found wherever a beast is killed. Passing through the wide woods, which girt the hills, one meets with the Syrian Bear, and hither too the Leopard retreats in the summer time from the heat of the low country, while the black-eared Lynx makes his permanent abode here in company with the Bears, which ravage the vineyards. Badgers too, Syrian Squirrels, Hares, Foxes, and particularly Jackals, are not uncommon in the neighbourhood of the villages, and the Wild Boar range through the valleys up to the borders of the hills. Of feathered fowl, Ptarmigan and Wild Doves are generally diffused. The Moufflon is seldom seen, yet the inhabitants of Güllek get from 10 to 20 head every year. What has been already said might perhaps seem sufficient to show that Cilicia invites the visit of the sportsman. But the most noble game of all inhabits the mountain region. The Steinbock* exceeds the European species in dimensions by one-third. It often reaches a length of $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet. In its company live *Viverra sarmatica*, and a noble bird, possessing a fine-sounding call, *Tetraogallus caucasicus*. They all find a follower in the *Gypaëtus*, which is however rare."—*Kotschy*, 'Reise in den Cilicischen Taurus über Tarsus.' Gotha, 1858.

* Perhaps *Capra caucasica*, Gülderst. ?—ED.